



# HOW DOES MASS-TESTING HELP SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19?

Testing can tell us how many people in an area are infected and **help guide additional prevention and control efforts** to further limit the spread of disease. Testing complements existing prevention efforts, but does not replace measures like social distancing, cloth face coverings, and frequent handwashing.

## WHAT TO CONSIDER BEFORE MASS TESTING

- Has someone tested positive for COVID-19?
- Are there concerns that others were exposed to COVID-19?
- How will COVID-19 test results be used? This includes identifying what steps will be taken for people who test positive for COVID-19 through mass testing.

## CHECKLIST FOR MASS TESTING

- ✓ Do you have a medical provider who can issue collection orders before requesting testing?
- ✓ Do you have a plan to address positive individuals?
- ✓ How many individuals do you expect to have at your event? Plan for 1 test per person.
- ✓ Identify and contact the laboratory that will be performing testing AND confirm sample type (nasopharyngeal, oropharyngeal or nasal). The testing laboratory should provide laboratory supplies for specimen collection and supplies for labeling and shipping. If you need assistance identifying a laboratory, please email ([COVIDTribalRequests@state.sd.us](mailto:COVIDTribalRequests@state.sd.us))
- ✓ Secure personal protective equipment (PPE) for staff collecting specimens.
- ✓ NOTIFY South Dakota Department of Health that a collection event is planned by emailing ([COVIDTribalRequests@state.sd.us](mailto:COVIDTribalRequests@state.sd.us)).

## BENEFITS OF WORKING WITH SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- Technical assistance for contact tracing, determining appropriate type of testing, and community and business mitigation strategies.
- Assistance facilitating connection with appropriate laboratory.
- Assistance identifying specimen collection providers (FQHCs, rural health clinics, local medical providers).
- Assistance obtaining PPE.
- Timely follow-up for positive cases.

\*\*\***Don't wait! If you're considering holding a mass testing event, notify the Department of Health within 7-10 days prior to your event, when possible.** [[COVIDTribalRequests@state.sd.us](mailto:COVIDTribalRequests@state.sd.us)]\*\*\*

## RESOURCES

Should you get tested? (printable) [https://doh.sd.gov/documents/COVID19/COVID\\_TestingFacts.pdf](https://doh.sd.gov/documents/COVID19/COVID_TestingFacts.pdf)

What your test result means (printable) - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/What-Your-Test-Results-Mean.pdf>

CDC Tribal Resources website

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/tribal/index.html>